

# Model answer e-book

## Beginning to learn a foreign language

### IELTS writing task 2 model answer and worksheet

"Some experts believe that it is better for children to begin learning a foreign primary school rather than secondary school.

Do the advantages of this outweigh the disadvantages?"

### Contents

- 0. Key .....
- 1. General comments .....
- 2. Model answer .....
- 3. Vocabulary list .....
- 4. Vocabulary exercises .....

### 4. Vocabulary exercises : Production 1/2

There is no single correct answer for these questions. Each model answer given is one possible answer among many.

- Complete the sentences (1-5) using your own ideas. **One** has been done for you.

1. Professionals can find their true calling by ...  
... trying a variety of jobs.

2. There are support groups which cater specifically for ...  
...

3. A fully competent football player si  
...

4. People should make sure they inco  
...

5. Juries should base their decisions o  
...

- Match the different words referring to 'children' in the box to their definitions (1-8).

**One** has been done for you.

#### Words

|                            |               |                   |           |
|----------------------------|---------------|-------------------|-----------|
| a child                    | a young child | a youngster       | a youth   |
| a teenager / an adolescent | a kid         | offspring / young | an infant |

1. **a child** : A person who is not yet an adult i.e. under 18 years old (according to UK law, 18 years old or older is an adult). 'A child' also implies someone older than 2 years old, as children younger than this are more often referred to as 'infants' or 'babies', depending on their age.
2.  : a child aged from birth until about 2 years old.
3.  : This is an exact synonym for 'child' but it is too informal for task 2 writing. You can, however, use it in the speaking test.
4.  : This is understood to mean a child who is younger than a teenager but older than a baby or infant (between 3 and 12 years old).
5.  : A teenager or young adult (early 20s), but this word also often has derogatory connotations.
6.  : These are usually used when referring to animals' children. They could be used

| Word or phrase             | Collocations and synonyms   | Comments and common errors   |
|----------------------------|---|--|
| <u>universities</u> [C n]  | Higher / tertiary education<br><br>College (US)                     | Words associated with educational institutions can be confusing, especially when comparing UK systems with the US. This doesn't usually cause problems in task 2 writing, but if you would like some clarification, you should see the 'School years chart' in the 'General exercises' document.               |
| <u>should</u> [M]          | Ought to  | The most useful uses of 'should' in task 2 are for giving <b>advice</b> and expressing <b>expectation</b> .<br><br>For giving advice e.g. 'You look sick. You should see a doctor'.<br><br>To express something that is expected e.g. 'The news said that it will rain tonight. Thus, it should rain tonight.' |
| <u>true function</u> [C n] | True purpose / function / role / aim<br><br>Primary / main function |  |
| <u>for its own sake</u>    |   | This is difficult to paraphrase accurately. 'As its own reward' would be one way.  |

### 2. Model answer

Some people think that universities should provide graduates with the knowledge and skills needed in the workplace. Others think that the true function of a university should be to give access to knowledge for its own sake, regardless of whether the course is useful to an employer.

What, in your opinion, should be the main function of a university?

be to get graduates prepared for their vedge as its own reward. In my opinion, both ve and so the overall aim of university should

for its own sake as there are many students res. Such people need to be able to explore subjects as this will, hopefully, help them have chosen to embark on an engineering ty decide that his interests lie with building

A package of model answer worksheets for the IELTS writing task 2 questions provided by The IELTS Teacher Writing Correction Service